

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Dave Lewis, on April 2, 2011 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Dave Lewis, Chair (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Debby Barrett (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Taylor Brown (R)
Sen. Edward Buttrey (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Llew Jones (R)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Alan Olson (R)
Sen. Jason Priest (R)
Sen. Jon Sonju (R)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Ryan Zinke (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch
Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 316, 3/31/2011; HB 375, 3/31/2011; HB 604 3/31/2011; HB 611 3/31/2011; HB 612 3/31/2011; HB 613 3/31/2011; HB 619 3/31/2011; HB 633 3/31/2011

HEARING ON HB 316

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:48 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 316, Redistribute certain revenue and income.

EXHIBIT(fcs74a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:02:24 Chas Van Genderen, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT(fcs74a02)

00:03:27 Director Dore Schwinden, Department of Commerce

00:03:55 Lucy Weeder, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association

00:05:34 Interim Director Mike Cooney, Montana Historical Society

00:06:46 Peter Bovingdon, Montana Ski Areas Association

00:07:54 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:08:33 Ronda Wiggers, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce, Helena Chamber of Commerce

00:09:26 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties representing Hard Rock Mining Counties

00:11:59 Jeff Amerman, Butte Silverbow County

00:14:44 Maureen Connor, Granite County Commission and Hard Rock Mining Association

EXHIBIT(fcs74a03)

00:15:57 Tom Lythgoe, Jefferson County Commissioner

00:17:46 Jim Hart, Madison County Commission and Chairman Hard Rock Mining Association

00:19:10 Bob Walker, Volunteer

00:20:59 Steve Warlich, Billings

00:23:10 Mike Scholes, Big Sky, Montana

00:24:09 Mark Aagenes, Montana Trout Unlimited

00:24:26 Bill McGladdery, Director Hotel Operations Town Pump and representing the Governors Tourism Advisory Council

EXHIBIT(fcs74a04)

00:25:14 Denise Trautman, Holiday Inn Helena

00:25:53 Kris Hauck, El Western Cabins, Ennis

00:27:50 Racene Friede, Executive Director, Glacier County

00:31:54 Mary Sue Costello

00:33:08 Mike Mergenthaler, Helena Convention and Visitors Bureau

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:35:17 Chairman Lewis

Closing by Sponsor:

00:35:32 Rep. Cook

HEARING ON HB 375

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:39:24 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 375, Reduce certain general fund transfers.

[**EXHIBIT\(fcs74a05\)**](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:40:51 Chas Van Genderen, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

[**EXHIBIT\(fcs74a06\)**](#)

00:42:02 Tom Livers, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

[**EXHIBIT\(fcs74a07\)**](#)

00:44:36 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:46:17 Darrell Stankey, representing himself

00:47:01 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Snowmobile Association and representing Roger Hagen, Montana Trail Riders Association

00:49:35 Bob Walker, representing Montana Snowmobile Association and Montana Trail Riders Association

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:51:43 Sen. Hamlett

00:52:20 Rep. Cook

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:39 Rep. Cook

HEARING ON HB 604

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:54:04 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 604, Provide for fund transfers to various accounts.

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:55:48 Ann Brodsky, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor

01:00:17 Linda Kirkland, Governor's Committee for Telecommunications Access Services for Persons with Disabilities (MTAP) and representing Ron Bibler, MTAP

EXHIBIT(fcs74a08)

EXHIBIT(fcs74a09)

01:03:50 Tom Livers, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

EXHIBIT(fcs74a10)

01:05:29 Bonnie Lorang, Montana Independent Telecommunications Systems (MITS)

01:07:07 Joe Lamson, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

01:08:56 Phil Maxwell, Three Rivers Telephone Cooperative

01:10:20 Dave Galt, Montana Petroleum Association

01:11:38 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association

EXHIBIT(fcs74a11)

01:14:27 David Gibson, Century Link (formerly Qwest)

01:15:14 Amy Grmoljez, Verizon Wireless consumers

01:16:15 Darrell Stankey, representing himself

Informational Testimony:

01:17:28 Connie Phelps, Executive Director, Montana Telecommunications Access Program

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:17:48 Sen. Barrett

01:18:08 Ms. Brodsky, Governor's Chief Legal Counsel

01:19:05 Sen. Barrett

01:19:28 Ms. Brodsky

01:19:59 Sen. Barrett

01:20:22 Ms. Brodsky

01:21:08 Sen. Barrett

01:21:19 Sen. Jones

01:22:17 Ms. Brodsky

01:24:05 Sen. Jones

01:24:28 Jaret Coles, Staff Attorney, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

Closing by Sponsor:

01:25:27 Rep. Cook

HEARING ON HB 611

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:27:00 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 611, Generally revise use of accounts to implement House Bill No. 2.

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

01:28:22 Commissioner Keith Kelly, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)
01:31:35 Ann Brodsky, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor
01:34:36 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)
01:35:35 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:36:22 Rep. Cook

HEARING ON HB 612

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:37:29 Rep. Don Roberts (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB 612, Generally revise state healthcare laws to implement House Bill No. 2.

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

01:40:11 Ann Brodsky, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor

01:42:53 Mary Dalton, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
01:48:31 Jim Ahrens, American Cancer Society and Alliance for Healthy Montana
01:50:47 Erin McGowan Fincham, Association of Montana Public Health Officials
01:53:34 Claudia Clifford, AARP

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:55:13 Sen. Brown
01:55:50 Rep. Roberts
01:58:02 Sen. Brown
01:58:27 Ms. McGowan Fincham
01:59:06 Sen. Brown
01:59:17 Ms. McGowan Fincham
02:00:00 Sen. Brown
02:00:14 Sen. Hawks
02:00:20 Sen. Brenden
02:00:39 Ms. Dalton, DPHHS
02:01:06 Jaret Coles
02:01:24 Chairman Lewis
02:01:31 Sen. Ripley
02:02:32 Rep. Roberts
02:02:36 Sen. Ripley
02:02:47 Rep. Roberts
02:03:04 Sen. Ripley

Closing by Sponsor:

02:03:29 Rep. Roberts

HEARING ON HB 613

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:05:29 Rep. Don Roberts (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB 613, Generally revise elements of the budget process to implement House Bill No. 2.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:08:11 Steve Yeakel, Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health and Montana Advocates for Children

Opponents' Testimony:

02:10:42 Ann Brodsky, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor
02:15:54 Sandy Olson, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

None

Closing by Sponsor:

02:18:58 Rep.Roberts

HEARING ON HB 619

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:19:24 Rep. Duane Ankney (R), HD 43, opened the hearing on HB 619, Generally revise FWP laws to implement HB2.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:21:02 Art Noonan, Deputy Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
[EXHIBIT\(fcs74a12\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:23:49 Ann Brodsky, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:25:02 Sen. Brown
02:26:11 Rep. Ankney
02:27:15 Sen. Hawks
02:27:34 Chairman Lewis
02:28:03 Ms. Brodsky

Closing by Sponsor:

02:28:34 Rep. Ankney

HEARING ON HB 633

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:29:17 Rep. John Esp (R), HD 61, opened the hearing on HB 633, Revise healthy Montana kids program

[EXHIBIT\(fcs74a13\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs74a14\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

02:40:29 Jane Smiley, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs74a15\)](#)

02:46:44 Steve York, Office of Public Instruction (OPI) representing Superintendent Denise Juneau

02:51:14 Steve Yeakel, Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health and Child Health and Montana Advocates for Children

02:53:14 Jim Ahrens, American Cancer Society and Alliance for Healthy Montana

02:53:48 Mary Dalton, DPHHS

02:54:53 Erin McGowan Fincham, Association of Montana Public Health Officials

02:56:23 Christina Davis, Children's Defense Fund

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:57:29 Sen. Brown

02:57:50 Sen. Wanzenried

02:58:21 Ms. Dalton, DPHHS

02:58:59 Sen. Wanzenried

02:59:28 Ms. Dalton

03:00:02 Chairman Lewis

03:00:19 Sen. Wanzenried

Closing by Sponsor:

03:00:46 Rep. Esp

03:05:38 Chairman Lewis

Additional Testimony HB 316

Kevin and Nancy Johnson, Fairmont RV Park & Campground, Anaconda Montana

[EXHIBIT\(fcs74a16\)](#)

Karen Venetz, Great Falls

[EXHIBIT](#)(fcs74a17)

Additional Testimony HB 613

Steve Gettel, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

[EXHIBIT](#)(fcs74a18)

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:28 p.m.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs74aad.pdf](#))